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able in the East and in Europe, and it is therefore a matter for congratulation that our sky at Mt. Hamilton has been unusually clear during the past month, so that almost a continuous record has been secured at this observatory. E. S. H.

A HANDY STAR-ATLAS (MESSER'S).

I have lately seen a Star-Atlas compiled by Herr JACOB MESSER, of St. Petersburg, which is very compendious (the page is about 4½ inches by 8¾ inches and the book is about 1¼ inches thick), and which, I should think, would be found extremely convenient for amateur observers who do not care to burden themselves with the larger works.

It contains all the stars visible to the naked eye (1st to 6th magnitudes, inclusive), from the north pole down to 35° south declination, together with a selection of the most interesting double stars, variables, nebulæ, clusters, etc.

The atlas is published in two editions, one German, the other Russian. There are some 250 pages of introductory matter specially designed for amateur observers. E. S. H.

A LARGE NEW NEBULA IN AURIGA.

On receiving the announcement, February 6th, of the discovery of Nova Aurigæ, Professor HOLDEN requested me to use the CROCKER telescope for photographic observations on this star. The same day (February 6th) the WILLARD lens was, therefore, strapped to the 6-inch CLARK equatorial and a series of exposures made that evening. Similar observations have been made on every clear night up to the present time.

On a plate which I exposed for 150^m on the evening of March 21st, I find a large and apparently new nebula in R. A. $5^h\ 9^m.5$ Dec. $+34^\circ\ 10'$. The north preceding part of this nebula is in the form of a comparatively slender ray which seems to have its origin in the star W. B. 5^h, No. 151. This ray gradually widens —the northern boundary running in an easterly direction for a quarter of a degree or more; the southern boundary runs in a southeasterly direction, passing just a little to the north of the star W. B. 5^h, No. 162 (a naked-eye star), around which it appears to bend and then takes a southerly course extending more than a quarter of a degree beyond this star.

In a southeasterly direction the length of the nebula visible on the plate is more than half a degree, while its width varies from a few minutes of arc, at the star No. 151, to twenty or more minutes opposite the star No. 162.

A photograph taken February 27th which I exposed for 90^m shows, less conspicuously, the same object. Since the 21st the weather has been unfavorable so that the possibility of seeing the nebula *visually* is still a question to be decided.

J. M. SCHAEBERLE.

LICK OBSERVATORY, March 23, 1892.

P. S.—On the evenings of March 24 and 25 I made exposures of 200^m and 195^m respectively. These plates plainly show that the nebula joins the above mentioned stars **W.** B. 5^h, Nos. 151 and 162. Prints made so as to show only the brightest parts of the nebula reveal the following structure.

A narrow stream of nebulosity issues from the star No. 151 on the east side; a short distance from this star the stream divides into two parts; one running in a southeasterly direction passing the star No. 162 at a distance of two or three minutes of arc, then suddenly curving in towards the star which it joins in the southeast quadrant. This stream is inclosed by the other branch, which first runs in a more easterly direction until it reaches a point northeast of the star No. 162 where it suddenly curves in towards this star and joins it in nearly the same position-angle as the first branch. From this same point of junction a third stream runs from the star in a southerly direction for a distance of 5′ or more and then turns towards the east. On the original plates several very faint nearly equidistant bands of luminosity are shown in the northern part of the nebula. Taken as a whole a certain resemblance to the Orion nebula is apparent. J. M. S.

ERRATUM IN VOLUME III.

Professor WEINEK points out the following Erratum in Volume III, page 340, line + 12; *for* 2.5^{mm} *read* 0.25^{mm}.

CORRECTION TO PUBLICATIONS NO. 16.

In *Publications* A. S. P. Volume III, page 253, line + 14, *for* "on" *read* "of".